DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-34 are allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 1, the prior art of record fails to suggest or disclose a hysteresis-and—output sensor circuit that is configured to control the reference signal in response to a sensed signal, wherein the sensed signal is based at least in part on the output signal, and wherein the hysteresis-and-output sensor circuit is arranged to disable a hysteresis at power up, wherein the comparison of the reference signal to the temperature signal is made by the comparison circuit is a temperature comparison in which a determination is made to whether a temperature has reached a predetermined condition wherein the predetermined level is modified by a predetermined amount when hysteresis is enabled.

With respect to claim 13, the prior art of record fails to suggest or disclose the method of ensuring that the hysteresis is automatically inactive when the circuit is powering up, wherein the temperature-sensing condition is a temperature comparison in which a determination is made as to whether a temperature has reached a predetermined condition wherein the predetermined level is modified by a predetermined amount when hysteresis is enabled.

With respect to claim 20, the prior art of record fails to suggest or disclose a means for ensuring that the hysteresis is automatically inactive when the means for activating hysteresis is powering up, wherein the temperature-sensing condition is a

temperature comparison in which a determination is made as to whether a temperature has reached a predetermined condition wherein the predetermined level is modified by a predetermined amount when hysteresis is enabled.

With respect to claim 22, the prior art of record fails to suggest or disclose a temperature sensor signal generation circuit, wherein the temperature sensor signal generation circuit is arranged to provide the temperature sensor signal such that the temperature sensor signal in indicative of a temperature, wherein the temperature-sensing condition is a temperature comparison in which a determination is made as to whether a temperature has reached a predetermined condition wherein the predetermined level is modified by a predetermined amount when hysteresis is enabled.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KHAREEM E. ALMO whose telephone number is (571)272-5524. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lincoln Donovan can be reached on (571) 272-1736. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/KHAREEM E. ALMO/
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/Lincoln Donovan/
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